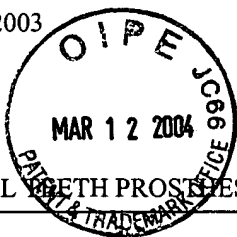


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	FORTIN	Examiner:	M. Bumgarner
Serial No.:	10/648,700	Group Art Unit:	3732
Filed:	August 26, 2003	Docket:	9680.234US01
Confirmation No.:	5041	Notice of Allow. Date:	n/a
Due Date:	n/a		
Title:	UNIVERSAL GETH PROSTHESES AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE THEREOF		



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: , Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 9, 2004.

By: 

Name: Peggy Kerkhove

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Certified copy of a Canadian application, Serial No. 2,399,740, filed August 26, 2002, the right of priority of which is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119
- ☒ Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 1 Reference(s), Copy of International Search Report
- ☒ Submission of Formal Drawings, 6 Sheets of Formal Drawings
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: 

Name: Gregory A. Sebal

Reg. No.: 33,280

GAS/pjk

S/N 10/648,700

PATENT



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Name: Peggy Kerkhove

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. At least some of the references were recently cited in an International Search Report mailed December 30, 2003.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), a copy of the U.S. patents and U.S. patent publications listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not provided, as this application was filed after June 30, 2003. A copy of any foreign patent document or "Other Document" listed on the Form 1449 is enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2).

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

Applicant hereby brings attention to the Examiner that the references listed were cited in an International Search Report dated December 30, 2003. A copy of the International Search Report is enclosed. Since the International Search Report is in

English, no English translation of the listed foreign references are required, pursuant to MPEP §609(A)3.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

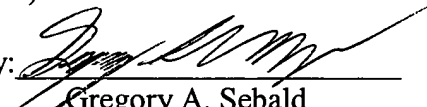
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
(612)332.5300

Dated: March 9, 2004

By: 
Gregory A. Sebald
Reg. No.: 33,280

GAS/pjk



EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.		